

## Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SCCT-01 A-01 OPR-02 SY-05 AID-05 /088 W

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R 221120Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2311

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, MORG, PFOR, RH, MZ, BC

SUBJECT: RHODESIAN SECURITY SITUATION

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. RHODESIAN SECURITY FORCE HEADQUARTERS HAS ANNOUNCED THAT FOUR WHITE SOLDIERS WERE KILLED AND FOUR WOUNDED INCLASH WITH GUERRILLA FORCES JULY 19. REPORT ALSO STATES FOUR GUERRILLAS KILLED DURING PRECEDING FIVE DAYS. ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT FIGURES, 87 GUERRILLAS AND 15 SERVICEMEN HAVE DIED IN FIGHTING SINCE PROCLAMATION OF CEASEFIRE IN DECEMBER 1974.

2. INCIDENT IS WORST LOSS SUFFERED BY RHODESIAN SECURITY FORCES SINCE LATE 1972 AND COMES AMID REPORTS THAT SMITH GOVERNMENT IS ABOUT TO INTRODUCE NEW SECURITY MEASURES. TED SUTTON-PRYCE,  
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DEPUTY MINISTER IN PRIMIN'S OFFICE, TOLD PRESS LAST WEEK, "OUR

NATIONAL AIM IS CLEARLY DEFINED: TO ELIMINATE TERRORISM FROM RHODESIAN SOIL. TH TIME HAS ARRIVED WHEN WE ARE GOING TO PUT INTO EFFECT POSITIVE AND NEW AGGRESSIVE PLANS TO ACHIEVE THAT SECURITY AIM IN THE SHORTEST PERIOD OF TIME."

3. SOME NEW MEASURES ALREADY ARE BEING IMPLEMENTED. RHODESIAN ARMY AND AIR FORCE JULY 1 BEGAN NEW RECRUITING CAMPAIGN TO ENLIST WOMEN SO THAT MEN CAN BE RELEASED FROM BASE DUTY TO SERVE IN THE FIELD. GOVT HAS ALSO CALLED ON ALL ABLE-BODIED MEN AND WOMEN TO VOLUNTEER FOR SERVICE WITH NATIONAL SECURITY AND EMERGENCY ORGANIZATIONS (CIVIL DEFENSE, POLICE "SPECIALS," AND POLICE RESERVES). MINISTER OF EDUCATION TOLD PARLIAMENT (JULY 16) THAT EVEN OLDER SCHOOL CHILDREN "SHOULD HAVE A PART TO PLAY IN THE MAINTENANCE OF ESSENTIAL SERVICES."

4. SECURITY-CONSCIOUSNESS CAMPAIGN WAS INSTITUTED JULY 14. GOVERNMENT IS DISTRIBUTING STICKERS AND POSTERS WITH SLOGANS SUCH AS, "DO YOU HAVE A MAO TSE TONGUE" AND "FOR LOOSE TALK DIAL AK-47. " CAMPAIGN IS INITIALLY AIMED AT SERVICEMEN AND CIVILIANS WORKING OR LIVING IN OPERATIONAL AREA, BUT WILL BE EXTENDED THROUGH RADIO AND TELEVISION TO COVER ENTIRE COUNTRY.

5. RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT ALSO FACED WITH PROBLEM OF YOUNG BLACKS LEAVING COUNTRY, APPARENTLY TO JOIN NATIONALIST FORCES. PRESS REPORTS INDICATE NEARLY 200 AFRICAN STUDENTS FROM SECONDARY AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS IN BORDER AREAS HAVE FLED COUNTRY DURING PAST SEVERAL WEEKS. STUDENTS HAVE CROSSED BORDERS WITH BOTSWANA AND MOZAMBIQUE WITH APPARENT INTENTION OF RECEIVING TRAINING AT GUERRILLA CAMPS IN MOZAMBIQUE, TANZANIA, AND ZAMBIA.

6. THERE HAS BEEN SOME SPECULATION IN SA PRESS THAT, IN ADDITION TO ADOPTING "NEW AGGRESSIVE PLANS," RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT WILL DROP ATTEMPTS TO NEGOTIATE WITH AFRICAN NATIONAL COUNCIL (ANC), AND INSTEAD WILL CALL CONFERENCE OF "REPRESENTATIVE" BLACKS. SUCH A CONFERENCE WOULD REPORTEDLY INCLUDE AFRICAN BUSINESS, RELIGIOUS, AND SOCIAL LEADERS, AND PERHAPS HOUSE OF CHIEFS. END UNCLASSIFIED

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7. COMMENT: RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT APPEARS TO BE PREPARING COUNTRY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FOR STEP-UP IN LEVEL OF GUERRILLA WAR ARE FOLLOWING ANC THREATS OF INCREASED MILITARY PRESSURE. WITH NEITHER GOVERNMENT NOR NATIONALISTS SEEMINGLY VERY ANXIOUS TO BEGIN SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS ON BASIS OF STATED POSITION OF OTHER SIDE BOTH APPARENTLY SEE ONLY REMAINING OPTION AS ESCALATION OF WHAT SO FAR HAS BEEN FAIRLY LIMITED WAR. ANY ATTEMPT BY SMITH GOVT TO BYPASS INCREASINGLY MILITANT ANC BY CALLING CONFERENCE OF GOVERNMENT-INVITED "LEADERS" IS NOT LIKELY TO BE ACCEPTED EITHER INSIDE OR OUTSIDE

RHODESIA. AS LONG AS ANC PFHIBLE TO MAINTAIN SOME SEMBLANCE OF  
UNITY, IT IS FROUP WITH WHICH RHODESIAN GOVT WILL HAVE TO DEAL.  
BOWDLER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MartinML  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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